THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) and (b) Yes Sir. It has come to the notice of the Department that some hoteliers charge dollar tariff for rooms in their hotels which is higher than the rupee tariff quoted for the same room which has lead to adverse criticism by tourists and tour operators from abroad.

Purchase of Aircraft by IA and AI

3133. SHRI MOHAMMED AFZAL *alias* MEEM AFZAL: Will the Minis ter of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether Air India and Indian Air lines propose to purchase new Aircrafts in the near future; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) and (b) Air India is acquiring four B-747-400 aircraft during 1993 and 1994. The first aircraft has been delivered in August, 1993 ; two more will be delivered in 1993 and the last aircraft in June, 1994. So far as Indian Airlines is concerned, 12 Airbus-320 aircraft are being inducted into the fleet during 1993 and 1994 of which 6 have already arrived, one more is due in 1993 and the remaining 5 in 1994.

Foreign Visits of ITDC/DG of Tourism Officials

3134. SHRI MATANG SING: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) the names of officials working in ITDC/Directorate General of Tourism who had gone on official tours to foreign countries since January, 1991 and the expenditure incurred on these visits ;

(b) what are the nature of duties performed by these officers in the Department and to what specific purpose they were allowed to visit foreign countries together with the result achieved; and

(c) whether it is also a fact that an officer who is looking after the work of Tourism Task Force was also deputed, and if so, the details thereof together with the purpose for the visit?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) and (b) The desired information is given at Annexure [See Appendix CLXVIII, Annexure No. 45].

(c) Four officials looking after the work of Tourism Task Force were sent on deputation abroad. The details are given at Annexure [See Appendix CLXVIII, Annexure No. 46].

निजी एअर टैक्सी प्रचालकों द्वारा पुराने विमानों का इस्तेमाल

3135. श्री सुशील कुमार संभाजीराव शिन्दे : क्या नागर विमानन और पर्यटन मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि बहुत-से निजी एअर-टैक्सी प्रचालक बहुत ही पुराने विमानों को लीज पर लेकर चला रहे हैं ;

(ख) यदि हां, तो क्या सरकार पुराने विमानों को इस्तेमाल में न लाने के लिए निदेश जारी करेगी ;

(ग) यदि हां, तो उसका ब्यौरा क्या है ; और

(घ) यदि नहीं, तो इसके क्या कारण हैं ?

नागर विमानन और पर्यटन मंत्री (श्री गुलाम नबी आजाद) : (क) जी, नहीं । नागर विमानन महा-निदेशक ने यह निर्धारित किया है कि हवाई टैक्सी प्रयोजनों के लिए प्रचालित विमान, गैर-दाबानुकूलित विमानों के मामले में 20 वर्ष से अधिक पुराने नहीं होने चाहिए, दाबानुकूलित विमानों के मामले में ये विमान 15 वर्ष से अधिक पुराने नहीं होने चाहिए और न ही विमान द्वारा 45000 दाबानुकूलन चक्र की सीमा पार की जानी चाहिए ।

(ख) से (घ) ये प्रश्न नहीं उठते ।

Decline the Tourists

3136. SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that tourist arrivals w.e.f. December, 1992 to 30th June, 1993 have shown a steady decline, if so, the percentage of decline during the last seven months;

(b) the reasons for the decline and the loss in foreign exchange earnings as a reasult thereof; and

(c) the measures Government proposes to take/have taken to attract more tourists ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) The tourist arrivals including the nationals of Pakistan and Bangladesh during the period December 1992 to June 1993 registered an overall decline of about 11.1% as compared to the corresponding period of the previous years.